AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 25, 2005 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 14, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005-06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1606

Introduced by Assembly Member Salinas

February 22, 2005

An act to amend Section 33334.3 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to redevelopment.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1606, as amended, Salinas. Redevelopment: low-income housing.

The Community Redevelopment Law, among other things, regulates funds used for purposes of increasing and improving the community's supply of low- and moderate-income housing.

This bill would require that income eligibility for this purpose be based upon the income of each individual residing in the unit and not on the aggregate income of the residents in the unit.

The Community Redevelopment Law limits the effectiveness of every redevelopment plan adopted on or before December 31, 1993, to 40 years from the adoption of the redevelopment plan or January 1, 2009, whichever is later, after which the agency has no authority to act pursuant to the redevelopment plan except to pay previously incurred indebtedness, to comply with provisions governing compliance with an agency's affordable housing obligations, and to enforce existing covenants, contracts, or other obligations. After 10 years from the termination of the effectiveness of the redevelopment plan pursuant to that provision, a redevelopment agency may not pay indebtedness or receive tax increment revenues, except as specified.

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This bill would authorize the City Council of the City of Watsonville or the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Watsonville, notwithstanding any other provision of law or the time limits described above and subject to the approval of the city council, to retain, until January 1, 2020, its ability to incur indebtedness exclusively for the purpose of managing and entering into a partnership with a housing sponsor or developer to provide affordable rental housing to single, low-income wage earners if specified conditions are met and would extend the ability of the agency to receive tax increment revenues to repay indebtedness incurred pursuant to these provisions until January 1, 2060.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 33334.3 of the Health and Safety Code 2 is amended to read:
- 33334.3. (a) The funds that are required by Section 33334.2 or 33334.6 to be used for the purposes of increasing and improving the community's supply of low- and moderate-income housing shall be held in a separate Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund until used.
 - (b) Any interest earned by the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund and any repayments or other income to the agency for loans, advances, or grants, of any kind from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund, shall accrue to and be deposited in, the fund and may only be used in the manner prescribed for the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund.
 - (c) The moneys in the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund shall be used to increase, improve, and preserve the supply of low- and moderate-income housing within the territorial jurisdiction of the agency.
 - (d) It is the intent of the Legislature that the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund be used to the maximum extent possible to defray the costs of production, improvement, and preservation of low- and moderate-income housing and that the amount of money spent for planning and general administrative activities associated with the development, improvement, and preservation of that housing not be disproportionate to the

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amount actually spent for the costs of production, improvement, or preservation of that housing. The agency shall determine annually that the planning and administrative expenses are necessary for the production, improvement, or preservation of low- and moderate-income housing.

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- (e) (1) Planning and general administrative costs which may be paid with moneys from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund are those expenses incurred by the agency which are directly related to the programs and activities authorized under subdivision (e) of Section 33334.2 and are limited to the following:
- (A) Costs incurred for salaries, wages, and related costs of the agency's staff or for services provided through interagency agreements, and agreements with contractors, including usual indirect costs related thereto.
- (B) Costs incurred by a nonprofit corporation which are not directly attributable to a specific project.
- (2) Legal, architectural, and engineering costs and other salaries, wages, and costs directly related to the planning and execution of a specific project which are authorized under subdivision (e) of Section 33334.2 and which are incurred by a nonprofit housing sponsor are not planning and administrative costs for the purposes of this section, but are instead project costs.
- (f) (1) The requirements of this subdivision apply to all new or substantially rehabilitated housing units developed or otherwise assisted, with moneys from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund, pursuant to an agreement approved by an agency on or after January 1, 1988. Except to the extent a longer period of time may be required by other provisions of law, the agency shall require that housing units subject to this subdivision shall remain available at affordable housing cost to, and occupied by, persons and families of low or moderate income and very low income and extremely low income households for the longest feasible time, but for not less than the following periods of time:
- (A) Fifty-five years for rental units. However, the agency may replace rental units with equally affordable and comparable rental units in another location within the community if (A) the replacement units are available for occupancy prior to the displacement of any persons and families of low or moderate

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income residing in the units to be replaced and (B) the comparable replacement units are not developed with moneys from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund.

- (B) Forty-five years for owner-occupied units. However, the agency may permit sales of owner-occupied units prior to the expiration of the 45-year period for a price in excess of that otherwise permitted under this subdivision pursuant to an adopted program which protects the agency's investment of moneys from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund, including, but not limited to, an equity sharing program which establishes a schedule of equity sharing that permits retention by the seller of a portion of those excess proceeds based on the length of occupancy. The remainder of the excess proceeds of the sale shall be allocated to the agency and deposited in the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund. Only the units originally assisted by the agency shall be counted towards the agency's obligations under Section 33413.
- (C) If land on which those dwelling units are located is deleted from the project area, the agency shall continue to require that those units remain affordable as specified in this subdivision.
- (2) The agency shall require the recording in the office of the county recorder of covenants or restrictions implementing this subdivision for each parcel or unit of real property subject to this subdivision. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the covenants or restrictions shall run with the land and shall be enforceable, against the original owner and successors in interest, by the agency or the community.
- (g) "Housing," as used in this section, includes residential hotels, as defined in subdivision (k) of Section 37912. The definitions of "lower income households," "very low income households," and "extremely low income households" in Sections 50079.5, 50105, and 50106 shall apply to this section. "Longest feasible time," as used in this section, includes, but is not limited to, unlimited duration.
- (h) Income eligibility of residents, for purposes of qualifying as low or moderate income, shall be based on the income of each individual residing in the unit and not on the aggregate income of all residents in the unit. Four income eligible single individuals may constitute a household to occupy a two bedroom

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unit. Two income eligible single individuals may constitute a household to occupy a single residential hotel unit.

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(i) "Increasing, improving, and preserving the community's supply of low- and moderate-income housing," as used in this section and in Section 33334.2, includes the preservation of rental housing units assisted by federal, state, or local government on the condition that units remain affordable to, and occupied by, low- and moderate-income households, including extremely low and very low income households, for the longest feasible time, but not less than 55 years, beyond the date the subsidies and use restrictions could be terminated and the assisted housing units converted to market rate rentals. In preserving these units the agency shall require that the units remain affordable to, and occupied by, persons and families of low- and moderate-income and extremely low and very low income households for the longest feasible time but not less than 55 years. However, the agency may replace rental units with equally affordable and comparable rental units in another location within the community if (1) the replacement units in another location are available for occupancy prior to the displacement of any persons and families of low or moderate income residing in the units to be replaced and (2) the comparable replacement units are not developed with moneys from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund.

(i)

(j) Agencies that have more than one project area may satisfy the requirements of Sections 33334.2 and 33334.6 and of this section by allocating, in any fiscal year, less than 20 percent in one project area, if the difference between the amount allocated and the 20 percent required is instead allocated, in that same fiscal year, to the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund from tax increment revenues from other project areas. Prior to allocating funds pursuant to this subdivision, the agency shall make the finding required by subdivision (g) of Section 33334.2.

36 (j) 37 (k)

(k) Funds from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund shall not be used to the extent that other reasonable means of private or commercial financing of the new or substantially rehabilitated units at the same level of affordability and quantity

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are reasonably available to the agency or to the owner of the units. Prior to the expenditure of funds from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund for new or substantially rehabilitated housing units, where those funds will exceed 50 percent of the cost of producing the units, the agency shall find, based on substantial evidence, that the use of the funds is necessary because the agency or owner of the units has made a good faith attempt but been unable to obtain commercial or private means of financing the units at the same level of affordability and quantity.

SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or the time limits in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 33333.6 and subject to the approval of the City Council of the City of Watsonville, the City Council or the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Watsonville may retain, until January 1, 2020, its ability to incur indebtedness exclusively for the purpose of managing and entering into a partnership with a housing sponsor or developer to provide affordable rental housing to single, low-income wage earners who are persons and families of low or moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code if either of the following conditions are met:

- (1) Eligibility for occupancy shall be based on an individual's income, provided that four eligible single individuals may constitute a household to occupy a two bedroom unit.
- (2) Eligibility for occupancy for a residential hotel shall be based on an individual's income, provided that two eligible individuals may constitute a household to occupy a single unit.
- (b) The ability of the agency to receive tax increment revenues to repay indebtedness incurred pursuant to this section may be extended until January 1, 2060. This section does not extend the effectiveness of the agency's redevelopment plan, except to incur additional indebtedness for the activities specified in this section, to pay previously incurred indebtedness, and to enforce existing eovenants, contracts, or other obligations.
- SEC. 2. Due to the unique circumstances of the City of Watsonville with respect to affordable housing, the Legislature hereby finds and declares that a general statute cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution. Therefore, the special legislation

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- 1 contained in Section 1 of this act is necessarily applicable only to
- 2 the City of Watsonville.